

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1117

By Parkinson

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Stephon Smith of Memphis.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Stephon Smith; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith was a celebrated comedian, actor, host, and MC who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a native of Danville, Illinois, Mr. Smith was the owner and CEO of Showtime Entertainment, where he produced shows and helped musical artists; he was also the CEO of *The Stephon Smith Show*, where he showcased and promoted various independent artists and businesses from the Mid-South; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith hosted and performed at various shows around Memphis and across the country with such national comedians as Shang, Lavelle Crawford, TP Hearn, Chocolate, Irma Johnson, Lester Bibbs, Funnyman Prescott, Spank E, Joe Clair, Shawty Shawty, Marvin Hunter, Bruce Bruce, DeRay, Corey Holcomb, Damon Williams, Cedric The Entertainer, and George Wallace; he has also appeared in several plays and movies; and

WHEREAS, he was voted #1 MC in the Mid-South and won a host of awards, including the 2014 Urban Industry Comedian of the Year award, Mtenzi Award for Best Host, and 2014 Comedian award; he was also a finalist for Best Comedian at The Best in Black Awards in 2014, the Juneteenth Awards in 2015, and the Steeple Awards in 2016; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Angela Phillips Smith; and

WHEREAS, Stephon Smith leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Stephon Smith, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Smith.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.